

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A camera operation apparatus for operating a camera via a network, comprising:

a storage means device for storing at least one module for generating a control command for the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

a recognition means device for recognizing information associated with a kind of camera subject to control;

a selection means device for selecting a module for generating the control command for the camera from said at least one module, on the basis of the information associated with the kind of camera recognized by said recognition means device; and

a module request means device, connected to the network, for requesting through the network, transmission of the module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized by said recognition means device to a device having the module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized by said recognition means device, when said camera operation apparatus has no module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized by said recognition means device.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a control right request means device to requesting a control right for the camera to a camera server executing control of the camera,

wherein the information associated with the kind of camera is attached to a control right obtaining notice for the camera notified from the camera server in response to a request to the control right for the camera by said control right request ~~means~~ device.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a display ~~means~~ device for displaying a window for operating the camera, on the basis of the module selected by said selection ~~means~~ device,

wherein said display ~~means~~ device changes at least display contents for operation in said window in accordance with a kind of camera.

Claim 4 (Original): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said camera operation apparatus allows at least one of panning and tilting operations of the camera.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A camera operation apparatus for operating a camera via a network, comprising:

a storage ~~means~~ device for storing at least one module for generating a control command for the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

a recognition ~~means~~ device for recognizing information associated with a kind of camera subject to control;

a selection ~~means~~ device for automatically selecting a module for generating the control command for the camera from said at least one module, on the basis of the information associated with the kind of camera recognized by said recognition ~~means~~ device; and

a display ~~means~~ device for displaying a window for operating the camera, on the basis of the module selected by said selection ~~means~~ device,

wherein said display ~~means~~ device changes at least display contents for operation in said window in accordance with a kind of ~~camera~~ functions the camera can perform.

Claim 6 (Original): An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said camera operation apparatus allows at least one of panning and tilting operations of the camera.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A camera server for controlling a camera on the basis of a control instruction received from a camera operation apparatus via a network, comprising:

a determination means device for determining whether the camera operation apparatus can control the camera when a camera control right request is received from said camera operation apparatus; and

an output means device for outputting to the camera operation apparatus a camera control right obtaining notice ~~to the camera operation apparatus and~~ which includes information associated with the kind of camera ~~together with the notice~~ when said determination ~~means~~ device determines that the camera operation apparatus can control the camera.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A server according to claim 7, wherein said output ~~means~~ device outputs a notice representing that the control right for the camera cannot be obtained to the camera operation apparatus and information associated with the kind of camera together with the notice when said determination ~~means~~ device determines that the camera operation apparatus can operate the camera.

Claim 9 (Original): A camera operation method of operating a camera via a network, comprising the steps of:

storing at least one module for generating a control command for the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

recognizing information associated with a kind of camera subject to control;

selecting a module for generating the control command for the camera from said at least one module, on the basis of the information associated with the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step; and

requesting through the network, transmission of the module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step to a device having the module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step, when there is no module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step.

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Claim 10 (Original): A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of:

requesting a control right for the camera to a camera server executing control of the camera,

wherein the information associated with the kind of camera is attached to a control right obtaining notice for the camera notified from the camera server in response to a request to the control right for the camera in the requesting step.

Claim 11 (Original): A method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of:

displaying a window for operating the camera, on the basis of the module selected in the selecting step,

wherein said displaying step changes at least display contents for operation in said window in accordance with a kind of camera.

Claim 12 (Original): A method according to claim 9, wherein said camera operation method allows at least one of panning and tilting operations of the camera.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A camera operation method of operating a camera via a network, comprising the steps of:

storing at least one module for generating a control command for the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

recognizing information associated with a kind of camera subject to a control;

selecting automatically a module for generating the control command for the camera from said at least one module, on the basis of the information associated with the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step; and

displaying a window for operating the camera, on the basis of the module selected in the selecting step,

wherein said displaying step changes at least display contents for operation said window in accordance with a kind of camera functions the camera can perform.

Claim 14 (Original): A method according to claim 13, wherein said camera operation method allows at least one of panning and tilting operations of the camera.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A method of controlling a camera server for controlling a camera on the basis of a control instruction received from a camera operation apparatus via a network, comprising the steps of:

determining whether the camera operation apparatus can control the camera when a camera control right request is received from said camera operation apparatus; and

outputting to the camera operation apparatus a camera control right obtaining notice ~~to the camera operation apparatus and~~ which includes information associated with the kind of camera ~~together with the notice~~ when it is determined in the determining step that the camera operation apparatus can control the camera.

Claim 16 (Original): A method according to claim 15, wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a notice representing that the control right for the camera cannot be obtained to the camera operation apparatus and information associated with the kind of camera together with the notice when it is determined in the determining step that the camera operation apparatus can operate the camera.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A storage medium for storing a computer-readable program for executing a camera operation processing comprising the steps of:

storing at least one module for generating a control command for ~~the~~ a camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

recognizing information associated with a kind of camera subject to control;

selecting a module for generating the control command for the camera from said at least one module, on the basis of the information associated with the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step; and

requesting through ~~the~~ a network, transmission of the module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step to a device having the module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step when there is no module corresponding to the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step.

Claim 18 (Original): A medium according to claim 17, wherein the processing further comprises the step of:

requesting a control right for the camera to a camera server executing control of the camera,

wherein the information associated with the kind of camera is attached to a control right obtaining notice for the camera notified from the camera server in response to a request to the control right for the camera in the requesting step.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A medium according to claim 17, wherein the processing further comprises the step of:

displaying a window for operating the camera, on the basis of the module selected in the selecting step,

wherein said display step includes changing display contents for operation in
~~said display means are changed by~~ on at least the window in accordance with a kind of camera.

Claim 20 (Original): A medium according to claim 17, wherein the processing allows at least one of panning and tilting operations of the camera.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A storage medium for storing a computer-readable program for executing a camera operation processing comprising the steps of:

storing at least one module for generating a control command for ~~the~~ a camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

recognizing information associated with a kind of camera subject to control;

selecting automatically a module for generating the control command for the camera from said at least one module, on the basis of the information associated with the kind of camera recognized in the recognizing step; and

displaying a window for operating the camera, on the basis of the module selected in the selecting step;

wherein said displaying step changes at least display contents for operation in said window in accordance with a kind of camera functions the camera can perform.

Claim 22 (Original): A medium according to claim 21, wherein the processing allows at least one of panning and tilting operations of the camera.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A storage medium for storing a computer-readable program for executing a camera control processing comprising the steps of:

determining whether ~~the~~ a camera operation apparatus can control the camera when a camera control right request is received from ~~a~~ the camera operation apparatus via a network; and

outputting to the camera operation apparatus a camera control right obtaining notice ~~to the camera operation apparatus and~~ which includes information associated with the kind of camera ~~together with the notice~~ when it is determined in the determining step that the camera operation apparatus can control the camera.

Claim 24 (Original): A medium according to claim 23, wherein the outputting step comprises outputting a notice representing that the control right for the camera cannot be obtained to the camera operation apparatus and information associated with the kind of camera together with the notice when it is determined in the determining step that the camera operation apparatus can operate the camera.

Claim 25 (New): A camera server for controlling a camera on the basis of a control instruction received from a camera operation apparatus via a network, comprising:

a storage device for storing at least one module for controlling the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

a selection device for selecting a module for controlling the camera from said at least one module; and

a module request device for requesting through the network, transmission of the module corresponding to the kind of current camera connected with said camera server, when no module corresponding to the kind of current connected camera is stored by said storage device.

Claim 26 (New): A camera server according to claim 25, wherein the control instruction is at least one of panning, tilting and zooming operations of the camera.

Claim 27 (New): A camera server according to claim 25, wherein when the transmission of the module is achieved, the restart-up of said camera server is performed.

Claim 28 (New): A method of controlling a camera server for controlling a camera on the basis of a control instruction received from a camera operation apparatus via a network, comprising the steps of:

storing at least one module for controlling the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

selecting a module for controlling the camera from said at least one module; and

requesting through the network, transmission of the module corresponding to the kind of current camera connected with said camera server, when no module corresponding to the kind of current connected camera is stored by said storage device.

Claim 29 (New): A method according to claim 28, wherein the control instruction is at least one of panning, tilting and zooming operations of the camera.

Claim 30 (New): A method according to claim 28, wherein when the transmission of the module is achieved, the restart-up of said camera server is performed.

Claim 31 (New): A storage medium for storing a computer-readable program for executing a method of controlling a camera server for controlling a camera on the basis of a control

instruction received from a camera operation apparatus via a network, said method comprising the steps of:

storing at least one module for controlling the camera in accordance with each kind of camera;

selecting a module for controlling the camera from said at least one module; and

requesting through the network, transmission of the module corresponding to the kind of current camera connected with said camera server, when no module corresponding to the kind of current connected camera is stored by said storage device.

Claim 32 (New): A storage medium according to claim 31, wherein the control instruction is at least one of panning, tilting and zooming operations of the camera.

Claim 33 (New): A storage medium according to claim 31, wherein when the transmission of the module is achieved, the restart-up of said camera server is performed.